

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CAIRO 12007 191452Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 /080 W

-----115332 191506Z /44

R 191403Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7420

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 12007

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EG PINT

SUBJ: APOSTASY

REFS: (A) CAIRO 11957, (B) 76 CAIRO 6801

1. EMBASSY HAS NOTED JULY 15 REUTERS DISPATCH ATTRIBUTING SPONSORSHIP OF APOSTASY BILL (REF A) DIRECTLY TO PRESIDENT SADAT. THIS IS INACCURATE. SADAT HAS HAD NO HAND IN PUSHING THIS PIECE OF LEGISLATION AND HAS SAID NOTHING PUBLICLY ON IT.

2. SO FAR AS WE ABLE TO DETERMINE, APOSTASY BILL WAS ONE OF SIX DRAFT ITEMS PREPARED BY AL-AZHAR, IN APRIL 1977, GEARED TO RETURNING EGYPT TO TRADITIONAL SHARI'A LAW. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, SHEIK AL-AZHAR HAS STATED THAT LAWS, IF ADOPTED, WOULD APPLY ONLY TO MUSLIMS. OTHER ISLAMIC SPOKESMEN, PARTICULARLY THOSE QUOTED IN KHWANI MOUTH-PIECE AL-DAWA, MAKE THIS LESS CLEAR.

3. OTHER BILLS WOULD STENGTHEN BAN ON ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES,  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CAIRO 12007 191452Z

AND IMPOSE TRADITIONAL PENALTIES FOR THEFT, ADULTERY, ETC. AL-AZHAR PROPOSED SIMILAR LEGISLATION LAST YEAR, WHICH WAS BLOCKED OR EMASCULATED BY PEOPLES ASSEMBLY UNDER SHREWD LEADERSHIP OF SAYYID MAR'I. ONLY BILL PASSED DEALT WITH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND IT HAS PROVEN ALOMOST WHOLLY INEFFECTIVE (REF B).

4. THESE DRAFT BILLS MUST BE REVIEWED BY COUNCIL OF STATE,  
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, AND CABINET BEFORE GOING TO PEOPLES  
ASSEMBLY. APOSTASY BILL IS ONLY ONE TO CLEAR COUNCIL OF  
STATE THUS FAR. IT UNLIKELY ANY OF BILLS WILL PASS, AT LEAST IN  
PRESENT FORM.

EILTS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RELIGION, LEGISLATIVE BILLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 19-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977CAIRO12007  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770256-1068  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** CAIRO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770744/aaaablqx.tel  
**Line Count:** 68  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** b56f1d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 CAIRO 11957, 76 CAIRO 6801  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1822711  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** APOSTASY  
**TAGS:** PINT, PGOV, SOCI, EG  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/b56f1d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009